1	2	3
13.	Giridih	01
14.	Bokaro	01
15.	Dhanbad	00
16.	Dumka	01
17.	Devdhar	00
18.	Godda	04
19.	Sahebganj	04
20.	Pakur	00
21.	Laschar	00
22.	Jamtara	00
	Total	36 cases

Prevention of Terrorist Activities Bill, 2000

*537. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to enact the Prevention of Terrorist Activities Bill, 2000, which had earlier been put on the backburner ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether it is a fact that this piece of legislative measure was criticised by the National Human Rights Commission and was rejected by an overwhelming majority of the Chief Ministers of the States; and

(d) if so, whether the NHRC and various State Governments would be consulted before introducing the Bill in Parliament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO) : (a) to (d) The Government proposes to enact an effective anti-terrorism legislation. On a reference made in this regard by the Government, the Law Commission has drafted a Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2000.

The said Bill was circulated among all State Governments and UT Administrations for soliciting their comments. Only a few States rejected outright

the idea of having such a law. Most of the States are in favour of such a legislation though they have expressed apprehensions about possible misuse of various provisions of the Bill under consideration, including violation of human rights. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has opined that there was no need to enact such a law.

The Government would take into account the views/comments of the State Governments as well as the NHRC, which are now available, and so modify the Bill that it harmonizes, to the extent possible, the safeguards for civil liberties with security imperatives. The Government would also hold consultations with political parties, other interest groups, etc. before taking a final view in the matter.

Home Guard Battalions

†*538. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of men and women Home Guard Battalions separately in the country ;

(b) whether the number of women Home Guard Battalions is insufficient in the country ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government intend to introduce special recruitment drive in order to promote women Home Guard Battalions; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) There are no separate men and women Home Guard Battalions in the country. However, State Governments/UT Administrations have been advised to determine the strength of women Home Guards within the overall target strength allotted to them. The present strength of women Home Guards in the country is 19467 against the overall raised strength of 490186 Home Guards.

(d) and (e) Being a state subject, it is for the State Governments/U.T Administrations concerned to encourage enrolment of women Home Guards.

Power shortage in Rajasthan

*539. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a shortage of power in the State of Rajasthan;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.